

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph, beginning at page 1, line 14, with the following rewritten paragraph:

Fig. 4 is a cross-sectional view of the conventional hermetic compressor. Suction pipe 2 which opens into hermetic container 1 is fixed with hermetic container 1. Hermetic container 1 contains compressing mechanism 7 which includes cylinder 4 in which piston 3 reciprocates, and suction muffler 6 forming muffling space 5. Suction muffler 6 is provided with inlet opening 8 communicating muffling space 5 with a space of inside hermetic container ~~1~~container 1. Inlet opening 8 is disposed closely facing suction pipe 2.